

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, NEUCHÂTEL - QUARTERLY REPORT

DIVISION : PROCESS DEVELOPMENT
SUBJECT TITLE : NILE
PERIOD COVERED : APRIL - JUNE 1990
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KEYWORDS : nile, us, blend, filler, expansion, et, ftr,
fc, or, recon, bur, mlf,

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this project is to evaluate the concept of producing an American-blend filler by total blend expansion in an expansion tower. This blend can contain flue-cured, oriental, untreated/treated Burley, Recon, but no add-backs.

STATUS

In the context of this project a new series of three trials was carried out in April in the FTR ET installation in Onnens (1, 2). Within this trial program for the first time a "real" MLF type blend including treated Burley and Recon was tried for expansion. The first run with 2000 kg of an MLF-type blend composed of 28.7% treated Burley, 31.5% Virginia, 15% Orient and 24.8% Recon was expanded on April 4, 1990 without any special problems. However because of a low cut-rag OV with only 18%, the standard conditions for total blend expansion had to be adapted accordingly. In order to find out the impact of Burley casing and PC on the expanded product a second trial - with 2000 kg of the same tobacco blend as the first one - was carried out. This time however, the "Burley casing" and "PC" were composed of water only. No special problems were observed during the expansion of this "water-cased" tobacco on April 11, 1990.

In addition, 2000 kg of another MLF-type tobacco blend, with no Recon, was expanded on the same day, again without any problems. A trial report was issued jointly by the ET Process Engineer and the undersigned (3).

The necessary follow-up with the expanded tobacco will be carried out by the Product Innovation group at R&D Neuchâtel.

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REFERENCES

- (1) Braem-D., Minutes to distribution, "Total-blend expansion meeting", February 28, 1990.
- (2) Braem-D., Profs note to distribution, "Project NILE, total blend expansion", March 12, 1990.
- (3) Lüthi-N.,
Dufour-P., Report to Babey-S., "Essais d'expansion NILE",
May 11, 1990.

NIL/vag/July 12, 1990
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